
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA TO ADOPT ENERGY SAVINGS PERFORMANCE CONTRACTING AS A PRIMARY STRATEGY TO ADDRESS DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION AND IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY STATEWIDE.

1 WHEREAS, the State continues to face significant challenges
2 related to aging public infrastructure and escalating deferred
3 maintenance costs; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Department of Education currently faces a
6 deferred maintenance backlog exceeding \$2.4 billion, placing
7 increasing strain on limited public resources and impacting the
8 quality of learning environments for students and educators; and
9

10 WHEREAS, despite substantial requests for major repair and
11 maintenance funding for fiscal biennium 2025-2027, traditional
12 capital improvement and repair approaches have proven
13 insufficient, inefficient, and costly to taxpayers; and
14

15 WHEREAS, sections 36-41 and 196-30, Hawaii Revised
16 Statutes, authorize the use of energy performance contracting
17 and energy savings performance contracting respectively, which
18 are innovative financing models that enable government entities
19 to implement energy efficiency and infrastructure improvements
20 without upfront capital investment; and
21

22 WHEREAS, under the energy savings performance contracting
23 model, project costs are funded through guaranteed energy
24 savings, thereby eliminating the need for significant
25 legislative appropriations while ensuring fiscal accountability;
26 and
27

28 WHEREAS, energy savings performance contract projects
29 typically include comprehensive upgrades, such as energy-



1 efficient lighting, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
2 systems, water conservation measures, and renewable energy
3 integration, all of which contribute to long-term operational
4 savings and environmental sustainability; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the energy savings performance contracting model
7 has been successfully implemented by the Department of
8 Transportation and University of Hawaii Community Colleges, with
9 projected savings approaching \$1 billion over the life of the
10 implemented contracts and the effective elimination of their
11 deferred maintenance backlogs; and
12

13 WHEREAS, recommendations to adopt energy savings
14 performance contracting methodologies were presented to the
15 Department of Education as early as 2008, demonstrating that
16 these approaches optimize building systems, reduce lifecycle
17 costs, and enhance facility performance; and
18

19 WHEREAS, transitioning to energy savings performance
20 contracting in coordination with emerging oversight structures
21 such as the School Facilities Authority presents a strategic
22 opportunity to modernize school infrastructure and improve long-
23 term fiscal sustainability; now, therefore,
24

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the
27 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
28 Education and University of Hawaii at Manoa are urged to adopt
29 energy savings performance contracting as a primary strategy to
30 address deferred maintenance and infrastructure modernization
31 and improve energy efficiency statewide; and
32

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education and
34 University of Hawaii at Manoa are encouraged to collaborate with
35 relevant state agencies and qualified energy service companies
36 to identify, develop, and implement energy savings performance
37 contract projects that maximize cost savings, improve facility
38 conditions, and enhance sustainability outcomes; and
39

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education and
41 University of Hawaii at Manoa are requested to submit a report
42 to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the



1 convening of the Regular Session of 2027 detailing planned or
2 implemented energy savings performance contract projects,
3 projected savings, and timelines for reducing deferred
4 maintenance backlogs; and

5

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
8 Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, Comptroller,
9 and President of the University of Hawaii System.

